

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BLOGGERS ROUNDTABLE WITH COLONEL DICK KUEHL,
PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT, SOUTHCOM; AND COLONEL KEN DYER, COMMANDER, 406TH
ARMY FIELD SUPPORT BRIGADE VIA TELECONFERENCE FROM FORT BRAGG TIME: 11:03
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LINDY KYZER (Army Public Affairs): Hi. This is Lindy Kyzer
with Army Public Affairs. Who's joining us?

MAJ. KRISTIAN SORENSEN (XVIII Airborne Public Affairs): This is
Major Sorensen with XVIII Airborne Corps Public Affairs. And I am here
with Colonel Dyer and Colonel Kuehl.

MS. KYZER: Great. I think we're right on time. So we'll go
ahead and get started if you're ready.

MAJ. SORENSEN: Yes, we are. Let me put it on speaker.

MS. KYZER: Great.

Again, this isn't Lindy Kyzer with Army Public Affairs. Thank you
so much, everyone, for joining us on the line. We're very pleased to
have with us XVIII Airborne Corps from Fort Bragg folks, to talk about
Haiti relief and humanitarian assistance. Specifically, we have Colonel
Dick Kuehl. He's the G-1 who is responsible for aiding SOUTHCOM with
filling critical personnel needs. Also Colonel Dyer. He's the acting G-4
helping with the logistics piece.

With that, I'll go ahead and turn it over to you, gentlemen, if
you have any opening remarks or just a brief introduction for us.

COL. KUEHL: Hi. Colonel Dick Kuehl. As was mentioned, I'm the
G-1. The G-1 is the director of personnel or human resources. So I'm
glad to be with you guys today.

COL. DYER: And I'm Ken Dyer, Colonel Ken Dyer. I currently
command the 406th Army Field Support Brigade, which is an entity under
Army Materiele Command, and really dual-hatted right now here at Fort
Bragg as the Corps G-4. Morning to you.

MS. KYZER: Okay, great, gentlemen. Thank you so much.

With that, we'll go ahead and turn it over straight to questions.

So, Dale with MilitaryAvenue.com, did you have a question?

Q I did. Good morning, gentlemen. Dale from MilitaryAvenue.com. I have a number of questions to start off with.

Can you tell me how many Army personnel are in Haiti and how many pounds of supplies, in particular medical supplies, that the Army has delivered?

COL. KUEHL: Hey, Dale. This is Colonel Dick Kuehl, the director of human resources.

I can tell you from Fort Bragg that we have about 3,100 paratroopers down there. The other numbers would come from SOUTHCOM headquarters because that would constitute the rest of the joint force.

Q Okay. Thank you very much.

And I noticed this morning on Fox the big problem with supplies of medical for the -- in the hospitals down there. Is the Army providing any resources for that?

COL. DYER: We are. This is Colonel Ken Dyer. And really the surgeons more -- is absolutely probably more -- can tell you more of the specifics on it. But from a transport perspective, we are moving medical supplies every day on a space-available basis as we've integrated our forces into the flow and gotten them into Haiti.

Just to put things in perspective, the initial -- just in the magnitude of this, the initial purchase of and the actual movement of medical supplies was \$3 million worth, and really it drained the installation resources in order to meet the resources of -- meet the requirements we could provide in Haiti.

You know, we've built those back up and we've also built some additional sets that we're pushing out. Today we had a C-17 that actually left here with eight pallets of medical supplies as part of its load. So we're doing what we can to contribute and really -- and help the medical effort, which is an interagency effort, and the Haitians in support of this -- in support of the relief.

Q Okay, that's great. Thank you very much. I used to fly 17s, so great story.

COL. DYER: I tell you, the Air Force has been a great partner in this. They are -- and this very much is a joint operation. The 82nd Airborne can't get airborne without them. So, you know, this really is a great team effort.

MS. KYZER: Great. And Rob Stewart with NCO Call, did you have a question?

Q Yes. Good morning, gentlemen.

My question is more about the coordination. With all of the other international agencies that are bringing aid down to Haiti, how is the process of coordination to ensure that, you know, the supplies and the relief are going out to the proper places?

COL. DYER: That's a great question. Very insightful.

I'll tell you, in a crisis you don't have a set plan and a set distribution process in place. And really what you do is that you -- and this operation (is phased ?), if you look at it from a strategic perspective, where the relief is the most important thing, and that's kind of where you focus on, what kind of logistics and personnel, for example, to push forward up front; and then from there it backs off to life-support kind of needs, sustainment kind of needs.

And so very much -- it's a complicated problem because it's one of these things you really can't necessarily plan for and have set in advance.

Does that answer your question?

Q Yes, but a follow-up to that is, is there going to be a -- like a meeting of the minds after this is over to kind of take a lessons learned and do an AAR after it to see what worked well, what can be improved, just in case this happens again? COL. KUEHL: Not only is that going to happen afterwards; that happens every day. We never -- we never stop learning and reviewing lessons learned and rediscovering history sometimes.

COL. DYER: Yeah. You know, and just to caveat that -- you look at, we've been an army now at war for nine years, and really we've got ourselves into a pattern, if you will, of meeting that fight.

This is something that's different. It's back into contingency operations. Really, you find some -- you find some operational shortfalls that -- and from a perspective of just -- and some things have atrophied, if you will, some business rules and processes that you -- and just training that we need to get back after. But we're absolutely going to use the AAR process, and make this lessons learned so we're not doing any relearning here in the future.

COL. KUEHL: Let me piggy-back on what Colonel Dyer had to say -- is the lessons that we learned today are the things that we don't have to relearn again tomorrow. So -- and you also talked about how do we do this coordination. A few years back -- or back in the '80s, you had Goldwaters-Nichols (sic) that said the military needed to be more joint. Well, in the -- in the 20th century, the 21st century, we're talking more about having to be more interagency.

And we actually have a cell on our core staff; it's called our G- 9 cell. They focus on civil affairs. And that's headed up by Colonel Charles Heatherly. And Charles is down there working very closely with all of the governmental and nongovernmental agencies, helping coordinate this effort.

Additionally, we have a Canadian brigadier general, Brigadier General Nick Matern. He's down there also working with all the foreign services and in the interagency piece and is, like, the overall coordinator of this. So we do work closely in coordination with U.S. government agencies, nongovernmental agencies and other governments.

Q Excellent. Thank you.

MS. KYZER: And Nathan Hodge from wired.com, did you have a question?

Q Yes. Good morning, gentlemen. This is Nathan Hodge from wired.com. Just to follow on that last question, is there a civil-military operation center or the equivalent up and running at this point? And how's that functioning?

COL. DYER: I can't answer that on -- from what's going on the ground. I mean, we -- I do know civil-affairs personnel have left Fort Bragg and are part of this operation. I don't know what their capability is, though, in Haiti. COL. HARPER (XVIII Airborne Public Affairs): Hey, Nathan. This is Lieutenant Colonel Harper. We'll get you that information. But yes, they do have a cell out there working, the civil-military affairs, and we have sent additional civil-affairs assets to assist that. And they are coordinating the interagency piece on the ground.

And we have sent additional civil affairs assets to assist that. And they are coordinating the interagency piece on the ground.

COL. DYER: It's kind of funny from here. It's not just -- you only see Fort Bragg and 82nd soldiers leaving. But you've got -- you've got the logistics piece of this that's leaving and going in to help the effort. And you've also got the Special Operations community, which -- the PSYOPS and Civil Affairs folks have been flowing in as well.

So there is an absolutely complete -- you know, a total-force push and capability in Haiti right now. I just don't know -- I just don't know to what degree all of them are capable at this point.

COL. KUEHL: Initially when most of the airflow was focused out of Fort Bragg, we were able to, you know, keep our triggers on the pulse and watch who was going. But now it's spread out all across the United States.

So now it's the guys on ground, who have to feed us, and what's happening down there.

Q Thank you.

COL. DYER: To put things in perspective, you know, if you look at the enablers that are actually providing support to Haiti, it's coming from 14 different installations now. At least the units have been identified to include not just our active component but our United States Army Reserve components as well, again, a team effort that -- it's really a total-force -- total-force effort here in providing relief to the Haitians.

MS. KYZER: Gary Sheftick with Army News Service, did you have a question?

Q Yes. Good morning.

General Allyn was quoted as saying, this was the first time a BCT deployed solely by air. And I was wondering if you could give us some specifics on that: how long it took, how many aircraft. And is this the first in the entire Army or the 82nd -- the XVIII Airborne Corps?

COL. DYER: Brigade combat teams deploy by air, you know, really quite routinely. You start talking about things such as, you know, OIF and OEF. I think -- I think to be more specific and to be more -- you're looking at really the equipment piece of this and not just the brigade combat team going with soldiers and their individual -- what they call to a company of troops -- weapons systems but all the gear it takes to actually -- to actually, you know, work this operation.

The Air Force did some yeoman work over a (search/surge ?) period that really began around the -- around the 18th of January and into, now, the 22nd of January. You know, to date we've had 148 total aircraft that have -- that have provided support in this fight, the majority of them being between those two dates.

And it was not just soldiers that were going, but it was integrated packages of support. So you had security elements to secure -- to secure things. You had drop-zone assistance recovery teams, and guys who could actually run drop zones, so that you can -- you can do CDS capability and provide containerized delivery systems -- you know, the capability to support the humanitarian feeding and relief efforts.

You had other capabilities, including really -- one of the big issues we had was distribution. You know, we have Army trucks, but getting them there quickly when you're in a -- when you're on an island is not an easy task. It takes some times to get there by sea, so --

Q Right.

COL. DYER: -- a lot of our space was taken by, you know, bigger trucks, light medium tactical vehicles -- LMTVS we call them. And, you know, basically, you know, five-ton type trucks to move supplies.

You know, the ports were initially out in this operation, if you remember -- if you've seen the news -- so you know, the -- our -- we were really much -- very much dependent upon that air leg. The entire brigade

combat team in terms of soldiers did leave by air, and a good portion of its equipment left by air as well.

We do have a sea piece to that that's ongoing right now. We've got about 250 vehicles that are -- that are -- that have left by rail here and are going to Jacksonport, where they're going to be loaded on contract watercraft from STDC to get to the port of Haiti, now that the port is more capable.

So it's probably one of those -- to answer the question, I guess it's one of those things we have not done in a while, and it -- to this magnitude, that's absolutely correct. Over.

Q Thank you, sir. A quick follow-up on distribution, if I could. You talked about the supplies being distributed. Is that solely now at the FOB, or are the soldiers moving beyond that to provide medical support and humanitarian assistance?

COL. DYER: You know, at the -- (laughs) -- the tactical commander on the ground is really in the -- it's one of the things the JTF is just better postured to answer for you.

I could tell you that the -- that the challenge we've had on this from the get-go has been the distribution, what we call the last tactical mile -- getting to the -- getting things, you know, from the, from a port of entry, whether it's an airfield or a seaport, out to where the actual requirement, or where the need is needed. And you can only imagine what an earthquake and the destruction it brings to a community, and taking out roads.

If I was you, I'd need to hold that question probably to the Joint Task Force commander. They can better answer some of the real challenges we're going through with that.

Q Thank you, sir.

MS. KYZER: And I believe we have -- had at least one new person join us on the line. Is there anyone who hasn't asked a question who's joined us and has one?

Q Hey, Lindy, this is D.B. Johnson.

MS. KYZER: Hey, D.B. Did you have a question?

Q Yeah, I've got a couple. The first one actually ties right into the distribution discussion that we're having right now. There was a news story last week about USAID telling the U.S. military to stop distributing food. And the commander on ground said, that's fine, but we're still going to distribute water. Do you have -- I mean, do you guys have any idea what's going on with that? Because it has just been a huge source of criticism, that the U.S. military is not distributing aid.

COL. DYER: Ma'am, I can tell you, that's definitely one of those ones that need to be answered by the JTF, the Joint Task Force

Command, on the ground. I could tell you, though, that the military -- the U.S. military is postured to do that mission, but again, this is an interagency cooperation effort with USAID and other governmental and nongovernmental organizations. But I would -- that needs to be best answered on the ground in Haiti, versus here at Fort Bragg.

Q All right. Thank you. I also wanted to congratulate you -- like, the 82nd, specifically for, you know, being involved in the rescue of some survivors. There's also been -- have you guys had -- you know, you were talking about getting personnel on ground. Has there been any focus on specifically trying to find Americans who are still missing, or just people in general? MR. DYER: We are -- we are -- of course, you know, the idea here on any relief operation is that -- is to, you know, save human lives first on these types of operations.

So we do our best effort to do that. And I think at -- from a soldier's perspective, when you're doing a -- one of these types of crises, and where the devastation is such, you're grateful to find anyone alive. I've had experience with, personally, with Katrina, so.

I'll tell you, though, that the -- there is ongoing efforts for American citizens, not just -- not just those alive, but those that have perished in the devastation. And to what degree the military plays a role is really -- is really, again, a JTF -- a JTF answer.

COL. KUEHL: But it would be safe to say that everyone down there is assisting in the recovery of any -- in the recovery mission.

Q Thank you.

MS. KYZER: And anyone else on the line who hasn't yet asked a question?

Q Yes. This is John Doyle with 4G War.

MS. KYZER: Okay, go ahead.

Q I apologize for joining the conversation late.

Some of the early news reports indicated that although all the equipment and water and food and medical personnel were arriving at the Port-au-Prince airport, through the good work of the Air Force Special Operations team bringing all those planes in, over and over again we kept hearing that it was -- they were having a hard time getting it out. And one of the reasons cited was the bad condition of the surface roads in Haiti post-earthquake.

And I'm just wondering, is that the main reason? And if so, what has been done to clear that up? Have you brought in heavy equipment to clear the roads, or is it a -- or is it really a security issue where it's unsafe to bring large amounts of supplies without proper security to people, large crowds of people who are absolutely desperate? And I wonder if you could straighten that out for me.

And I apologize, because I joined the conversation late -- whoever speaks, could they identify who they are, because I don't recognize voices.

COL. KUEHL: This is Colonel Dick Kuehl. I'm the director of human resources, the G-1 for the corps. Q Thank you, Colonel.

COL. KUEHL: And the other gentleman is Colonel Ken Dyer, he's the acting director of logistics. He's the --

Q Oh, I've got your names, I just want to know who's who; who's --

COL. KUEHL: -- main commander here for another organization who's been brought in.

Most of our responses are focused on the sustainment piece, on the manning and equipping and the transporting down there. I mean, great questions, but I would recommend -- you know, neither Ken or I are on ground, though we have -- both of us have people on ground. The best people to ask about the roads and the runways would be the folks in the JTF.

Q I see.

COL. DYER: I can tell you that the equipment that was sent, that did leave here, though, the equipment that has left in support of that brigade combat team does include some engineer equipment and the ability to do some clearance. It's -- you know, the organization of brigade combat teams -- brigade combat team is not -- is not robust in terms of, you know, a bunch of dozers and things of that nature.

But you need to -- you also consider the fact that this is a joint operation. You've got the 22nd MEU, which is the Marines, that have -- that have this type of capability. You've got Air Force units that are -- have expertise in the ability to repair runways to ensure that they continue to -- continue to be functional. And that's all part of this joint effort; Army is just -- is just one piece of that.

Q Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Colonels.

MS. KYZER: Okay, we'll go back down the line. Dale with MilitaryAvenue.com, did you have a question?

Q I do. I have one quick follow-on to an earlier one. Do you know how many C-17/130 sorties have left from Pope, carrying Bragg equipment down?

COL. DYER: C-17 sorties, 79, that's as of today. C-130, 54, as of today.

Q Is their airport too small to support a C-5?

COL. DYER: Is the base too small to support a C-5?

Q Is Port-au-Prince.

COL. DYER: No -- Fort Bragg, no, we have -- we have --

Q No, in Port-au-Prince. In Haiti. COL. DYER: I don't know the answer to that. And the reality is it's -- it's just -- it's also -- it's runway-specific, you know, length as well as the capability of the -- the strength of that one runway after -- after an earthquake.

I could tell you that, you know, that -- a C-17's more capable in its ability to land on a -- on a more unimproved runway than a C-5 is, so -- but again, that's probably better off to ask the Air Force.

Q Okay. Just curious. Thanks.

MS. KYZER: And Rob Stewart, did you have a follow-on question?

Q No, I'm good, thank you.

MS. KYZER: Nathan Hodge, of Wired.com.

Q Yes, just a quick question about the equipment that's going by rail. Is there sort of an estimated time when -- timeframe for when that's supposed to actually get there?

COL. DYER: Great question. The rail -- you know, this -- and I've got to give credit to the -- to the 2nd and the 82nd, the Brigade Combat Team, the All-Americans that are here that helped push them out, because they actually went from having things ready for airload to, you know, the airplanes being shifted to the next effort, which was the sustainment effort and take -- so we had to take some vehicles down to the rail. And that's a complex process, to have someone prepared to go by air and then shifted to be railed and -- and going by sea.

But the train left here at -- last night around 11:00 at night, I believe, and -- I'm sorry, arrived there at 11:00 last night. It actually arrived early -- or left early morning. So it was about a 24-hour pull. And it's right now being downloaded at 1:00 today at Jacksonville, and should be on a barge leaving to Port-au-Prince over the weekend.

Q Just a follow-on. You gave us some numbers earlier about the number of vehicles. I believe it was 250?

COL. DYER: There's about 250 pieces of equipment that are -- that are actually on that rail. In addition to that, there's, you know, containers with -- with everything from repair parts to just support items for that brigade combat team. There's 140 of those as well.

Q Thank you very much. And this is Colonel Dyer, correct?

COL. DYER: Yes, it is. Colonel Dyer, Acting G-4 back here, and 406th Brigade Commander.

Q Thanks for clarifying.

MS. KYZER: And Gary Sheftick with Army News Service, did you have a question? Q Yes. Colonel Dyer, could you quantify the daily level of aid leaving Pope Air Force Base, and the overall totals to date? And what has posed the most challenges so far in the sustainment effort?

COL. DYER: I'm going to have to -- I'm going to have to give you that after -- I'm not prepared to answer that question. I can tell you, what we're doing is -- an aircraft lands at Pope Air Force Base and it's -- it's not going to leave light. So we're going to -- we're trying to max its capacity out, if not with soldiers and equipment, we're making sure that the integration of aid is in there as well. So I owe you that answer, and I'll get that back to you at -- I'll get that back to you through the PA office here.

Q Yes sir. Any -- any figures at all on how much aid is going down per day, or -- any estimate at all?

COL. DYER: In terms of aircraft, I -- again, it's peaks and valleys. We had a -- we had a C-17 leave last night, for example, and it had eight pallets of medical items integrated as part of -- part of the, you know, 14 to 15 pallet positions we have on that aircraft. So what we're doing is we're integrating the aid to the best of our ability on this end. And really, it's nowhere near the -- you know, the capacity that's going to be provided through USAID and some of the interagency partners on the ground, that are -- that are now starting to leverage the port and containers of aid coming in.

Does that answer your question?

Q Yeah, thank you, sir. Somewhat. COL. DYER: Again, I'll get you some -- I'll get you some better -- I'll get you some better numbers, some better figures.

Q Appreciate it.

MS. KYZER: And, D.B., did you have a follow-on question?

Q No, I don't. Thank you very much.

MS. KYZER: John Doyle, any additional questions?

Q I don't think so. Thank you very much, Colonels.

MS. KYZER: Okay, last call. Any other questions from folks on the line?

Q I have one quick follow-on for -- this is Dale from MilitaryAvenue.com. Are there any heartwarming stories from any of the soldiers there at Fort Bragg that's got reported back to you, of, you know, family, or involvement, or something like that that we could tell America about?

LT. COL. HARPER: Yes, this is Lieutenant Colonel Harper, with the Corps Public Affairs Office. I'll just add an inject to that.

I mean, it's been an incredible operation from our standpoint here on the ground with all the communities participating. There have been a lot of great donations from across Fayetteville and the surrounding communities. And the soldiers and airmen and everybody that's been here at Fort Bragg has been working around the clock to support the operation in Haiti, to support the JTF. It just goes into -- it's just a fact, to show that the -- Fort Bragg is definitely a power projection platform, whether it's in combat, or prepping for combat and sending soldiers out for combat, or it's preparing or putting together humanitarian assistance.

You know, we can go by air, sea, rail. We have all those facilities here to do it. A lot of people here -- civilians, soldiers, families.

And again, that -- I think that's -- you know, from our perspective, that's what Fort Bragg's all about. And it's -- when there's a need, whether it's Hurricane Katrina or Haiti, they call on Fort Bragg. They call on the soldiers here at Fort Bragg. They call on the 18th Airborne Corps. They call on the 43rd Air Wing. And jointly together, you know, we're -- like I said, it's 24 hours, seven days a -- seven days a week, and pushing supplies, assistance, and, you know, just really rallying together. And so it's a great tribute to what our community has, and again, the soldiers and families.

COL. DYER: Tell you just some of the personal experience I've had on this is really -- as part of the support that's being provided. You go down to a place we call the heavy drop bridge site, and this is where we actually prepare equipment for airdrop. And you've got parachute riggers from the 82nd Sustainment Brigade down there that have been -- have been rigging parachutes and actually preparing containerized delivery system bundles with humanitarian water and MREs. We dropped 84 bundles of water and 68 bundles of rations to date. Rigging them -- I'm talking around the clock in shifts.

And these are -- these are just, you know, America's sons and daughters doing what they do best. And it's just great to be part of that -- being part and seeing that, it makes you -- it puts a -- it puts a -- and it allows me -- gives me the opportunity to stick my chest out a little bit, to be part of that bigger team of soldiers here at Fort Bragg, and of course the airmen, sailors and Marines around the world.

COL. KUEHL: One of the really unique things about Fort Bragg is all the world's a drop zone, and we can be anyplace in just a matter of hours. All you have to do is give us a call, and these guys are ready at a moment's notice, time and time again. This is, I think right now, in the -- in the recent history of Fort Bragg or since OEF/OIF, that we have over 50 percent of the Fort Bragg forces deployed at once.

You know, I mean, you talk about an effort between the civilians at Fort Bragg, the paratroopers left back here, and then all those paratroopers deployed. It's a monumental effort to put this all together, and then even bigger to sustain it because, as you know, they don't have a real robust logistics system down there, and these guys day-in and day-out are having -- we're having to self-support right now from throughout the United States to make it happen. So, monumental effort on everybody's part. Q Could you identify the last three speakers, please? (Laughter.)

COL. DYER: I'm Colonel Ken Dyer. I'm the guy who -- whose -- who talked about the -- who just discussed the experience out in the heavy drop bridge site with the riggers and the -- and Colonel Dick Kuehl just talked about -- was the last person to talk. And Lieutenant Colonel's Harper's out of the PAO office; he was the first to speak.

Q All right. Thank you, sir.

COL. KUEHL: Last thing -- this is Colonel Dick Kuehl again -- is, you know, those guys are living down there in pretty austere conditions. It's been three -- almost three weeks for some of them. And showers are limited, you know, they have port-a-potties. Soldiers in OEF and OIF have lived in austere environments, but I'll tell you, what these guys are going through right now is pretty tough, and morale and attitude down there is still phenomenal. And that, again, comes from the support from the people back here in the States, and the encouragement that they get every day.

MS. KYZER: Okay, great. Any other additional questions from anyone on the line?

Q Just as a -- this is John Doyle again -- just as a follow-up to Colonel Kuehl's last statement, is there anything more that the American people could do for the -- for the troops we were talking about right now, or for all of the contingent that's down in Haiti?

COL. DYER: I'll tell you, just keeping up the positive morale support, you know. And really the American soldiers, if you look at the -- we've been at war now for nine -- for nine years, and we still have a positive backing from the American people.

Q I'm sorry, Colonel, could you speak up? It's a little hard to hear you.

COL. DYER: There's soldiers and their families that are making sacrifices right now. These are kids -- a lot of these kids are -- have come back from combat and they're now in the midst of a humanitarian effort.

And the reality of it is, is just to continue to support their families and continue to support them as they, you know, do America's work in terms -- from a military perspective.

COL. KUEHL: Probably about a quarter of these young men and women have recently returned and haven't met the -- haven't yet met the one-year dwell -- and again, volunteering to go down and do this humanitarian assistance mission. You know, pat them on the back when they get home.

COL. HARPER: Mr. Doyle --

Q Yes, sir.

COL. HARPER: Hey, it's Lieutenant Colonel Harper. Just want to make sure -- we didn't have a Colonel Hill there. It was the -- the two guest speakers we have is Colonel Dyer, and that's D-Y-E-R --

Q Right.

COL. HARPER: -- and Colonel Kuehl, K-U-E-H-L. So I just want to make sure we don't say Hill.

Q Oh, okay. I'm sorry.

COL. HARPER: Good.

COL. KUEHL: I guess sometimes it's better to keep my name hidden. (Laughter.)

MS. KYZER: Okay. I think that we're out of questions, so if you have any closing remarks, gentlemen, or any topics that we didn't touch upon that you wanted to make sure got out there, I'll leave it to you two gentlemen to close us out here.

COL. DYER: I'm just going to emphasize one point -- and this is all about teams, you know, and the teams at multiple levels. You've got -- on the ground it's the interagency military partnership that's occurring, as well as coalition forces that are on the ground, participating in this effort. Back here at Fort Bragg, it's the Forces Command; Installation Management Command, who's the people that work here at the garrison here at Fort Bragg; the Army-Air Force partnership and relationship; the mission support element, who is the civilian organization that augments us when we deploy; the -- and really the -- and Army Materiel Command, one of the -- the organization I belong to, that really is providing the equipping piece for this as well. So it's -- it really is -- it's all about teams and focused on -- focused on an effort, a mission, and that's been to provide relief to the Haitians.

That's all I have.

COL. KUEHL: Let me -- this is Colonel Kuehl. I'll piggyback on Colonel Dyer's -- is, you know, as soon as they found out -- as soon as the world found out Fort Bragg had the mission, XVIII Airborne Corps and the 82nd, it -- the phones never stopped ringing -- Forces Command, Department of the Army, Army South, SOUTHCOM, everybody calling: What do you guys need to get out the door?

And you know, we haven't trained for a crisis mission like this in a -- in a long time. Though we do it, we haven't done a big rehearsal. And you know what, with all those organizations and agencies and sister services, I'm not going to say it wasn't without, you know, some challenges, but we're down there taking care of the Haitian people, and that's all you could ask for.

MS. KYZER: Great. Thank you so much, gentlemen. Thanks for everything you're doing. Thank for taking the time to join us on the line. And thank you to all the bloggers and folks we had dial in and ask questions.

This concludes the roundtable. Have a nice day.

COL. DYER: You too. Thank you.

COL. KUEHL: Thank you.

Q Thanks.

Q Thank you.

END.